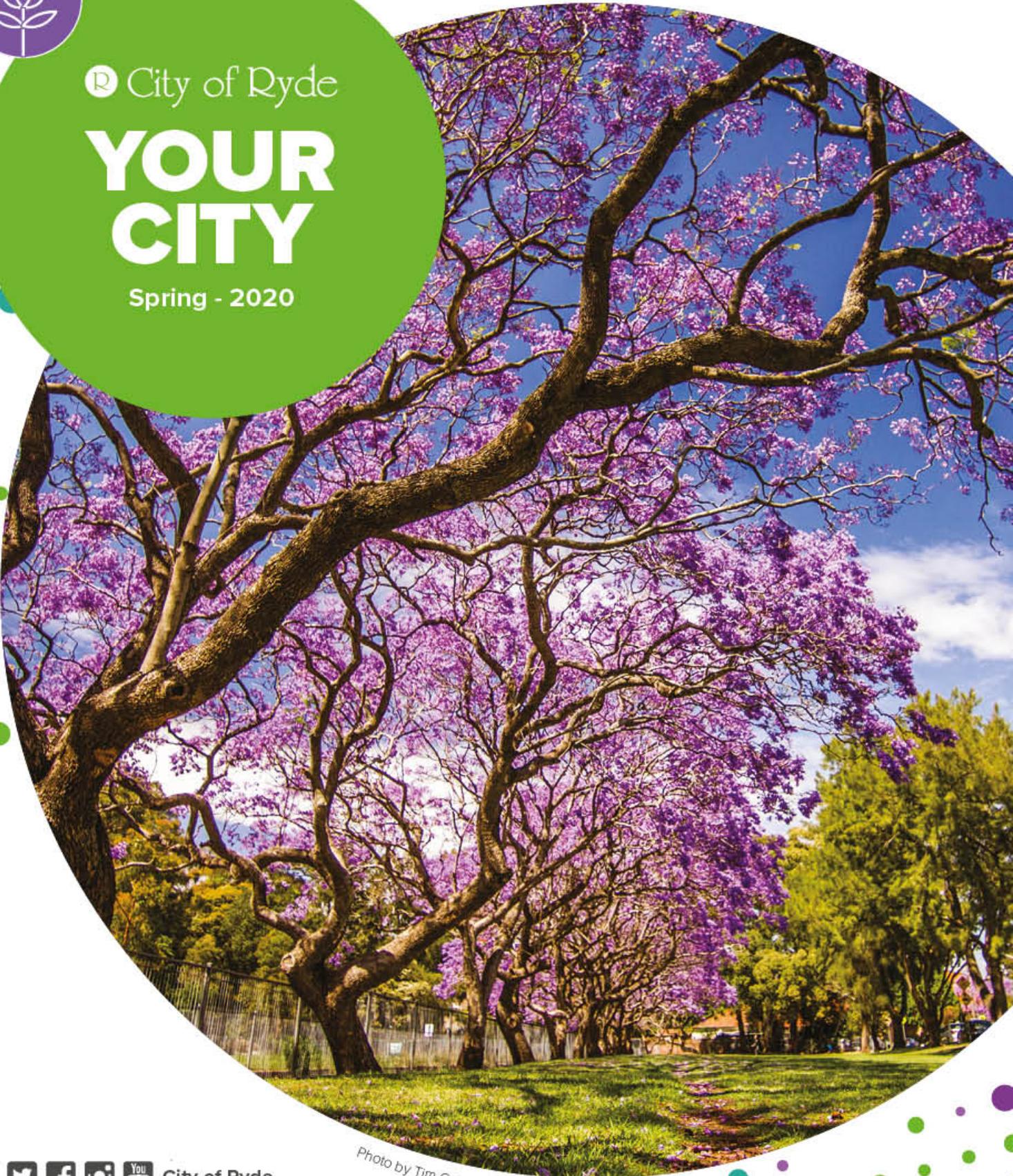




City of Ryde

YOUR CITY

Spring - 2020



City of Ryde

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

Photo by Tim Cooper on Unsplash

Ryde Customer Service Centre: 1 Pope Street, Ryde
Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670
P: 9952 8222 E: cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au



NEWS IN BRIEF

The City of Ryde has achieved a lot over the last couple of months. Here is a summary of a few of them.

FROM BOWLS TO PARKS: CITY OF RYDE UNVEILS NEW PARK

The City of Ryde has a brand new state-of-the-art open space with Kings Park now open to the public to enjoy.

Located at the former site of the Denistone East Bowling Club, the park features a range of attractions for people of all ages.

This includes:

- A neighbourhood playground with shade sail and custom-made play features
- Walking paths and seating
- A large sheltered area providing a space for small gatherings
- Multi-purpose hard court for basketball, futsal and pickleball
- Passive relaxation areas for picnics and other outdoor activities
- Extensive landscaping and new tree plantings.

The design and features of the upgraded Kings Park were based on the feedback Council received from the community.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said: "Providing more, high-quality open spaces for the public is a key goal for this Council. The new Kings Park has been designed to appeal to as many people within our community as possible and is a wonderful addition to the City of Ryde landscape."

For more information, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/kingspark



Kings Park in Denistone East

NEW SHOPPER CAR PARK IN EASTWOOD TO BE COMPLETED BY NEXT YEAR

Work has commenced on a new shopper car park on Rowe Street East in Eastwood after the tender to construct the car park was awarded to Belmadar Pty Ltd.

The new multi-storey shopper car park will be located at 53-71 Rowe Street. It will be able to accommodate 146 car spaces and include a small pop-up retail space once completed.

The final design for the new car park incorporates feedback that was received during Council's community consultation, including sustainable features such as electric vehicle chargers.

The new shopper car park is expected to be completed in mid-2021.



Cir Jerome Laxale, City of Ryde Mayor with Cllr Bernard Purcell and members of the Eastwood Business Chamber of Commerce (President Vic Tagg and Eastwood Club General Manager Steve Colquhoun) and the Eastwood Korean Chamber of Commerce (Jay Koh and Son-ha Lee).

CITY OF RYDE HELPS LAUNCH PODCAST FOR LOCAL MUSICIANS

A new podcast has been launched to help local musicians amp up their live performances and maximise the potential of their music career.

The Get Gig Ready podcast is a collaboration between the City of Ryde, Lane Cove Council, the Live Music Office, MusicNSW and local community station 2SER, with support from Macquarie University, as part of efforts to support and strengthen the live music scene in the local area.

The seven-episode series features exclusive interviews with topics ranging from the basics of music business, to marketing, putting on a gig, getting music played on radio and much more. In addition, each episode also features a track by a local musician.

The Get Gig Ready podcast is available online at the 2SER website (www.2ser.com) and any of your favourite podcast streaming platforms.

For more information, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/GetGigReady



For more news, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/news

BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN ENDORSED

Blenheim Park in North Ryde will be expanded and have a greater range of diverse and inclusive facilities that will cater to the entire community under a new masterplan endorsed by Council.

The masterplan was developed following extensive community consultation and is part of the City of Ryde's commitment to creating well-connected and modern open spaces for the City's growing population.

Key features of the masterplan include new multi-use courts, a small skate park, a major upgrade to the existing playground and a new fenced dog off-leash area. A new radio control car track will be also be installed along with new picnic areas, pathways and a biodiversity corridor.

The implementation of the masterplan will occur over a number of stages as funding becomes available. Funding for the first three stages has been identified in Council's Four Year Delivery Plan.



OUR COMMON GROUND RETURNS

The City of Ryde is delighted to confirm that the popular Our Common Ground program is making a much-anticipated return.

Our Common Ground is focused on sustainable food gardening by encouraging residents who live in apartments to increase local food production, reducing waste and creating collaborative communities.

Applications are now open for this year's program in which five groups of neighbours will be invited to work together to establish and maintain a food garden and share the produce in autumn next year.

Successful applicants to the program will receive horticultural training from Toni "the Veggie Lady" Salter and gardening material to establish a shared vegetable garden bed in their apartment complex.

Our Common Ground was launched by the City of Ryde in 2019 with more than 40 applications received in the first year.

For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ourcommonground

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS TO BE NOW LODGED THROUGH THE NSW PLANNING PORTAL

There are changes to the way customers are required to lodge their development applications within the City of Ryde, with all applications now to be done through the NSW Planning Portal.

Customers will need to register with the Planning Portal website and then submit their application via the portal. Council will then review the application for acceptance, with customers also able to track the progress of their application via the Planning Portal.

If additional information is required to complete the lodgement, the applicant will be notified via the Planning Portal.

The introduction of the new Planning Portal means Council will no longer be able to accept physical applications by post or in person.

The NSW Planning Portal can be viewed at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au





UPCOMING EVENTS

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has changed the way the City of Ryde stages many of its events in order to ensure the safety of everyone in the community.

This means some events have moved online, allowing everyone to still take part, but from the safety and comfort of their own home.

All face-to-face events that do take place will practice physical distancing and comply with all relevant restrictions in place at the time.

SMALL BUSINESS MONTH: October

Reboot, upskill and connect throughout October as part of NSW Small Business Month.

The City of Ryde is staging a number of workshops and webinars throughout this month designed for small business owners and those looking to start a new small business.

Several of the events planned are focused on the changing landscape of the workforce, including workshops that explore digital options for your small business and to get the most out of your home-based business.

For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/smallbusinessmonth



The Illume Girls at the 2019 NAIDOC Week Welcome Ceremony



Diramu Aboriginal Company at the 2019 Musical Morning Tea: NAIDOC



2019 NAIDOC Week Celebration - Pictured: Brenden Keirin



NAIDOC WEEK: 8 – 15 November

Celebrate the history, culture, contributions and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples during this year's rescheduled NAIDOC Week.

The week will feature a range of informative and engaging activities for people of all ages, which will align with this year's theme: "Always Was, Always Will Be".

The November dates follow the decision by the National NAIDOC Committee to postpone NAIDOC Week from the original July dates due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/naidoc

PLASTIC-FREE LIFE WORKSHOP (DIGITAL): 14 November

Learn how to eliminate plastic from your life by finding out sustainable alternatives to common products at this free workshop.

Participants will also learn how to make beeswax food wraps.

For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/plasticfreenov



SPONSORED BY:



SPRING GARDEN COMPETITION ONLINE AWARDS CEREMONY

Tune in online to hear which green thumbs have taken away the top prizes in this year's Spring Garden Competition.

The Competition is a very popular community event that has a unique hands-on quality and an active nature to it.

Thanks to our sponsor, Eden Gardens, for their support of the 2020 Spring Garden Competition.

For more information and to find out who the winners are visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/gardencomp

For more information and to register for these events, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/events

MAKE A STAND: 25 November - 10 December

The City of Ryde, with the support of local businesses and community groups, will stage Make A Stand to help raise awareness in the community about domestic and family violence and what can be done to prevent it from occurring.

This year's event will involve a series of virtual activities in which people will be asked to join the City of Ryde in taking a stand to end violence and abuse. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions around large public gatherings there will be no physical march.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any form of violence, there is 24/7 free and confidential support available. Please call the Domestic Violence Hotline on 1800 656 463 or 1800 RESPECT on 1800 737 732.

For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/makeastand



SOCIAL INCLUSION WEEK: 21 – 29 November

Join the City of Ryde as we all come together as a community to celebrate Social Inclusion Week.

The week will be dedicated to promoting the benefits of social inclusion and how we can all work together to create conditions that allows everyone to have equal opportunities.

There will be something for everyone with a series of fun events aimed at connecting people and groups within the City of Ryde community.

For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/socialinclusionweek

THE ART OF COMPOSTING WORKSHOP (DIGITAL): 28 November

With many of us spending more time at home, tending to the garden has never been so popular.

At this workshop you will learn how to set up and maintain your own compost bin and produce compost for your garden, which will help your plants blossom.

Participants who are City of Ryde residents will also receive a 50 percent discount voucher to purchase a compost bin after attending the workshop.

For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/composting

MEAL PLANNING AND AVOIDING FOOD WASTE WORKSHOP (DIGITAL): 5 December

Learn how to plan your meals by using available, sustainable, seasonal and local produce during this round table workshop facilitated by an expert professional organiser.

Each participant will go home with their own individually tailored meal plan and strategies to avoid overbuying and reduce waste.

For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/mealplanning



 City of Ryde

GRANNY SMITH FESTIVAL

ONLINE OCT 2020

- ONLINE EVENTS
- COMPETITIONS

**FOR EVENT UPDATES VISIT
RYDE.ROCKS/GSF**



FESTIVAL SPONSOR



HOSPITAL AND CLINICS



Our community is at the heart of what we do. Find out what opportunities are currently available and discover local talent.



COUNCIL AND MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY TEAM UP FOR PEOPLE OF RYDE

To learn more about the heart and soul of our wonderful community, the City of Ryde has teamed up with Macquarie University's Department of English to produce the People of Ryde project.

People of Ryde involves local residents as well as those with a close connection to the City to tell their stories in their own words.

Edited by Dr Michelle Hamadache from Macquarie University's Department of English, each of the stories offer a sense of connection and belonging, giving everyone in the community the chance to celebrate what makes the City of Ryde so diverse.

The stories featured touch on different themes such as personal development, cultural identity, community service and overcoming adversity, while being told in an engaging and personal way.

Each story that forms the People of Ryde project can be viewed at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/PeopleofRyde



People of Ryde - Richard Scenna

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' EXPERIENCE OF RACISM: A CITY OF RYDE REPORT

The City of Ryde has partnered with Macquarie University to produce a report on the experience of international students when it comes to racist behaviour.

The report – *International students' experience of racism: A City of Ryde report* – is a key component of the City of Ryde's commitment to stamp out racism through all facets of the local community.

More than 13,000 international students live in the City of Ryde, with the five most common countries of origin being China (47 percent), India (19 percent), Nepal (10 percent), Vietnam (8.5 percent) and Bangladesh (7 percent).

The report's authors conducted focus group interviews and street surveys of more than 400 young students prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Based on these interviews and surveys, the report found:

- International students are likely to experience one incident of racism during their time in Australia, which is most likely to be casual or verbal.
- More than 90 percent of the surveyed students reported hardly ever or never having been called names or insulted because of their language, cultural or religious background.
- Casual racism was a more common experience with 12.9 percent of students reporting that some people act as if they are not to be trusted.
- Nearly 20 percent said they were treated with disrespect often or very often because of their background.

In addition, the report maps where racist incidents have occurred around the City of Ryde. It also makes recommendations for better involving international students in community and civic life.

The report's co-author, Dr Alice Chik, who is Associate Director of Macquarie University's Multilingualism Research Centre, said the research also found that students were unsure what they should do, reporting wise, if they experienced a racist incident.

"A lot of international students mention they are wary that if they report any kind of crime, their visa may be revoked. Depending on their own personal experience and background, a lot of students may be fearful of police, or they may not actually know racism is not acceptable and that it is not legal in Australia," Dr Chik said.

In response to this, the City of Ryde has commissioned the Multilingualism Research Centre to produce pamphlets explaining what racism is, the reporting mechanisms available and what bystanders can do if they witness racist behaviour.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said: *"We want to encourage people to speak out against racism. As a community, we need to all denounce racism and ensure everyone understands that is never acceptable."*

View the report at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/racismreport



International students' experience of racism: A City of Ryde report

For more information, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/community

NEW ARTWORKS BRIGHTENING UP THE CITY OF RYDE

Council has been busy in recent months installing eye-catching new artworks around popular public spaces.

The artworks are part of efforts by Council to beautify public areas and complement other street art projects, including the new artwork that now adorns the Eastwood pedestrian underpass.

Here is a snapshot of some of the new artwork to keep an eye out for around town:

8 Sager Place, East Ryde

Council engaged artist Nick Fintan to design and install artwork at 8 Sager Place in East Ryde, which is the home of the Fox and Bird Café.

The mural design was developed through consultation with the local community and was selected by Council's Arts Advisory Committee. It features a number of elements, including:

- A ballet dancer, which is a reference to Peggy Sager (namesake of Sager Place)
- A jacaranda blossom, based on community feedback in relation to the highlights of the local plant life
- A rainbow lorikeet, which was also highlighted several times as a feature of the local wildlife.

Ryde Park, Ryde

Developed through community consultation and selected by Council's Arts Advisory Committee, this mural was designed and installed by artist Elliott Routledge (also known as Elliott Numskull or Funskull).

Titled 'Move & Shake', the artwork features traced outlines of the classic jacaranda flower and gum trees, combined with bold and dynamic colours. And if you look closely, you may be able to make out the words 'Ryde Park', which have been subtly woven into the design.

Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, Ryde

Visitors to the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC) can enjoy new artworks that are now on display at the venue.

The artworks were designed and installed by RALC staff members, Children's Party Host Erin Hackelton-Smith and Lifeguard Patrick Peristone. Both Erin and Patrick designed and installed the artworks while the RALC was closed to the public due to coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions earlier in the year.

The mural that Erin designed features a mermaid and her sea-creature friends, with the aim to help children's minds at ease during swimming lessons.

Patrick's background as a scenic film artist helped him create an eye-catching design that reflects elements and colours found at the RALC. The artwork spells out S-T-A-D-I-U-M using an array of imagery including soccer balls, basketball nets and badminton shuttlecocks.



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - MS KIM

A visit to a Korean elderly care group more than a decade ago inspired Yung Shim Lee Kim to dedicate her spare time to helping those most in need within the local community.



Ms Kim was named the Volunteer of the Year at the 2020 City of Ryde Volunteer Recognition Awards in August for her work with the Australian Korean Art Therapy Association.

For Ms Kim, her volunteer work all began with that decisive visit to the Korean elderly care group.

"I saw that the group members were not able to take advantage of community programs due to language and cultural barriers. Coming to a new country as an older person already very challenging so I wanted to help them engage with their community and enjoy their life in Australia," Ms Kim said.

Ms Kim soon joined the Australian Korean Art Therapy Association, helping it grow and providing assistance and support for those who need it.

YOUNG VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - CLAIRE SELLAR

Claire Sellar was named the 2020 City of Ryde Young Volunteer of the Year for her work with helping others over the past five years.

During that time, Claire has volunteered for more than 10 different community organisations including youth leadership development group Max Potential, Christ Church Gladesville, St John Ambulance and the City of Ryde.

For Claire, volunteering allows her to help others.

"I enjoy seeing the impact that my actions, small or big, can have to others. I do not volunteer for my own gain but rather helping others have a fulfilling life and utilise their gifts," Claire said.

"To win the City of Ryde Young Volunteer of the Year award I am significantly touched to think that my work has been recognised. I hope that more and more volunteer's work will be rewarded."



SUSTAINABILITY & WASTE NEWS

City of Ryde is committed to making our City more sustainable and reducing plastic waste.



HOUSEHOLD CLEANUP COLLECTIONS

Pre-booked Household CleanUp Collection is a free service offered to City of Ryde residents for the disposal of unwanted bulky household items. Each property can have up to five free collections per year.

Bookings often fill up around busy holiday periods, so make sure you plan ahead and book your Pre-booked Household CleanUp Collection now to avoid the Christmas rush.

Simply call 9952 8222 or visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/cleanup to make a booking. Once a booking has been made, all you need to do is put your items out the night before your pre-booked collection date.

If you live in an apartment, please contact your building or strata manager as they will make a booking for the whole apartment complex.

HOW CAN YOU BE MORE PLASTIC FREE DURING COVID-19?

The City of Ryde is committed to reducing single-use plastic items due to their harmful impact on the environment.

Unfortunately, since the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic began earlier this year, there has been a significant increase in the disposal of single-use items, as well as overall plastic waste.

To help reduce the amount of single-use items and stay plastic-free while staying safe through the COVID-19 pandemic, here are some tips everyone can follow:

- Visit Council's 'Be Fantastic. Cut Single-Use Plastic' web page at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/befantastic where you will find a stack of resources to help you progress on your journey to becoming more sustainable.
- Continue to use your reusable items and wash them thoroughly between each use.
- Make a coffee at home in a reusable cup or purchase from cafés accepting reusable cups.
- Remember to take your reusable water bottle when you go out; you can refill your bottle at one of Council's filtered water stations. A list of all locations can be found at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/filteredwaterstations.
- Use the Trashless Takeaway tool to find a list of cafés and restaurants that will accept your reusable containers for takeaway food, at www.trashlesstakeaway.com.au.

A reminder that the most effective measure to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is to practice good hand hygiene and cleaning with a focus on shared or frequently touched surfaces. Just because we are in a period of change, doesn't mean we can't avoid single-use plastics.

REHOMING AND RECYCLING SERVICES

Are your items too good to go to waste?

The City of Ryde provides a range of free services to help you rehome and recycle your unwanted household items.

Some of the options available to each resident include:

- Book a free Collection and Rehoming Service and The Bower will collect your unwanted household items from your property
- Hold a second-hand garage sale and Council will advertise it for you, free of charge
- Book a free kerbside TV and Computer Collection Service
- Organise a free kerbside Chipping and Mulching Service and turn your branches into mulch for your garden
- Use one of our clothing bins located in more than 30 convenient locations across the City of Ryde
- Drop off your household batteries, light globes, ink cartridges and mobile phones at one of our seven Problem Waste Drop-off Stations.

Visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/otherwasteservices for more information.

2021 WASTE COLLECTION CALENDARS

Keep an eye out for your new 2021 Waste Collection Calendar this December and never miss a bin collection day again.

For more information on Waste and Recycling services visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/waste

For more information, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/waste



LIBRARY NEWS

With five branches across our City, our libraries provide a range of services, books, events, information, programs and content in our community languages.



 City of Ryde

150
years

SESQUICENTENARY – HARD TO SAY, FUN TO CELEBRATE

In November this year the City of Ryde will be celebrating its birthday – its sesquicentenary - which is the 150th anniversary of its formation as a council in November 1870.

For a birthday we would usually invite everyone to a party but, in these coronavirus times, that party will be held online instead.

You will be able to find out what has made us who we are by exploring our history and development through an online exhibition of 150 photos and objects. Arranged in three categories of People, Places and Progress, it will bring together items from the collection of Ryde Library as well as the Ryde District Historical Society and provide an immersion into Ryde's history which will be informative, endearing and, we hope, entertaining.

Explore a time when Ryde was known for its market gardens, orchards and poultry farms; when you could build an aeroplane in your backyard; when children made billycarts from old fruit boxes and when Council developed an innovative post World War II housing scheme. This and much more.

More information is available at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/150years

FIRST AID PROGRAM FOR NEW PARENTS

A new program has been launched by the City of Ryde library service that will teach people how to deliver first aid to newborns in emergency medical situations.

The online Baby First Aid program is designed for expectant and new parents, providing knowledge and important advice on how to handle the most common reasons a young baby might require first aid care.

The course includes advice on common children's illnesses, access to Parentmedic Triage Tool Symptom Checker and how to get GP help from home through our telehealth partner Medinet. Participants in the program will also have the ability to submit questions and have them answered online.

The Baby First Aid program is free to register and use. It is available online until 31 December.

More information is available at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/babyfirstaid



Busy Things
Teach • Laugh • Learn

BUSY THINGS

Busy Things provides fun educational online games aimed at children aged three to 11.

Accessed via your computer browser or a tablet, all you need to get started is your library card number.

With the motto 'Teach, Laugh, Learn' it is a great way to have your children engaged in learning in a safe online environment.

For more information about this program and other kids' online courses, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/kidsonline

For more information, visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/library



WHERE DO YOUR RATES GO?

Rates are essential to help keep the City of Ryde running, here we explain why.

Rates are used to fund facilities, infrastructure and services to ensure City of Ryde is the place to be for lifestyle and opportunity at your doorstep.

The below information provides a snapshot of where Council's income is derived from, how your rates are going to spent over the next financial year and top-8 programs of capital works.

Top-8 Capital Programs

Included in Council's 20/21 budget is approximately \$81 million of capital works with the top-8 programs:

Ryde Central Project - \$35 million

Road kerb renewal - \$4.65 million

Multi-deck car park construction - \$3.72 million

Passive parks expansion and improvement - \$2.66 million

Sportsgrounds amenities renewal and upgrade - \$2.47 million

Stormwater renewal - \$2.47 million

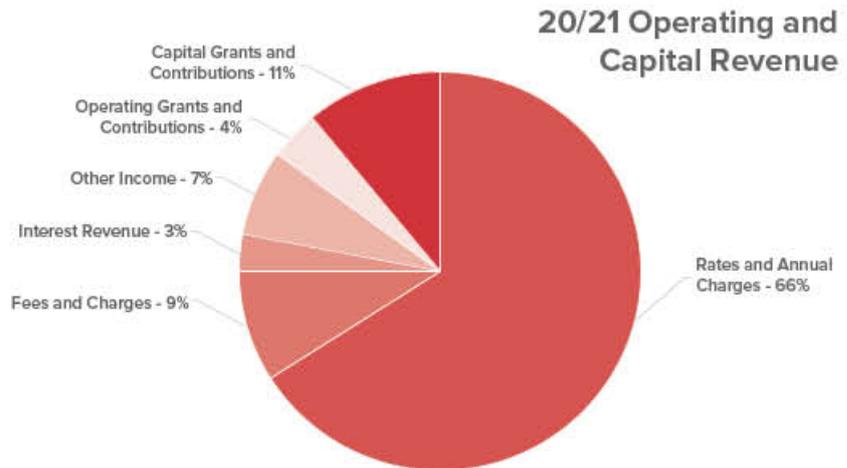
Town centre upgrades - \$2.25 million

Playground renewal and upgrade - \$1.95 million

More information on Council's activities can be found in the Four-Year Delivery Program and One-Year Operational Plan, which outline the services, projects and programs planned for our future. This is available at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/deliveryplan.

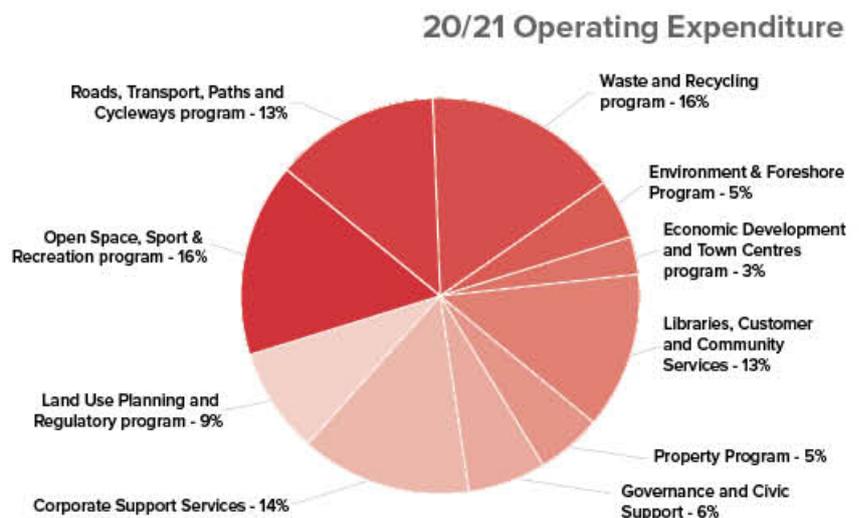
WHERE DOES COUNCIL'S MONEY COME FROM?

Council's 2020/2021 operating and capital revenue budget comprises of the following:



WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Council has allocated its income to the following programs:



WHERE DOES YOUR RATES AND ANNUAL CHARGES GO?

The summary below shows how Council Rates and Charges are allocated:





WORKS IN OUR CITY

July - September
2020



The City of Ryde delivers an ambitious program of works to meet the needs of our growing City.

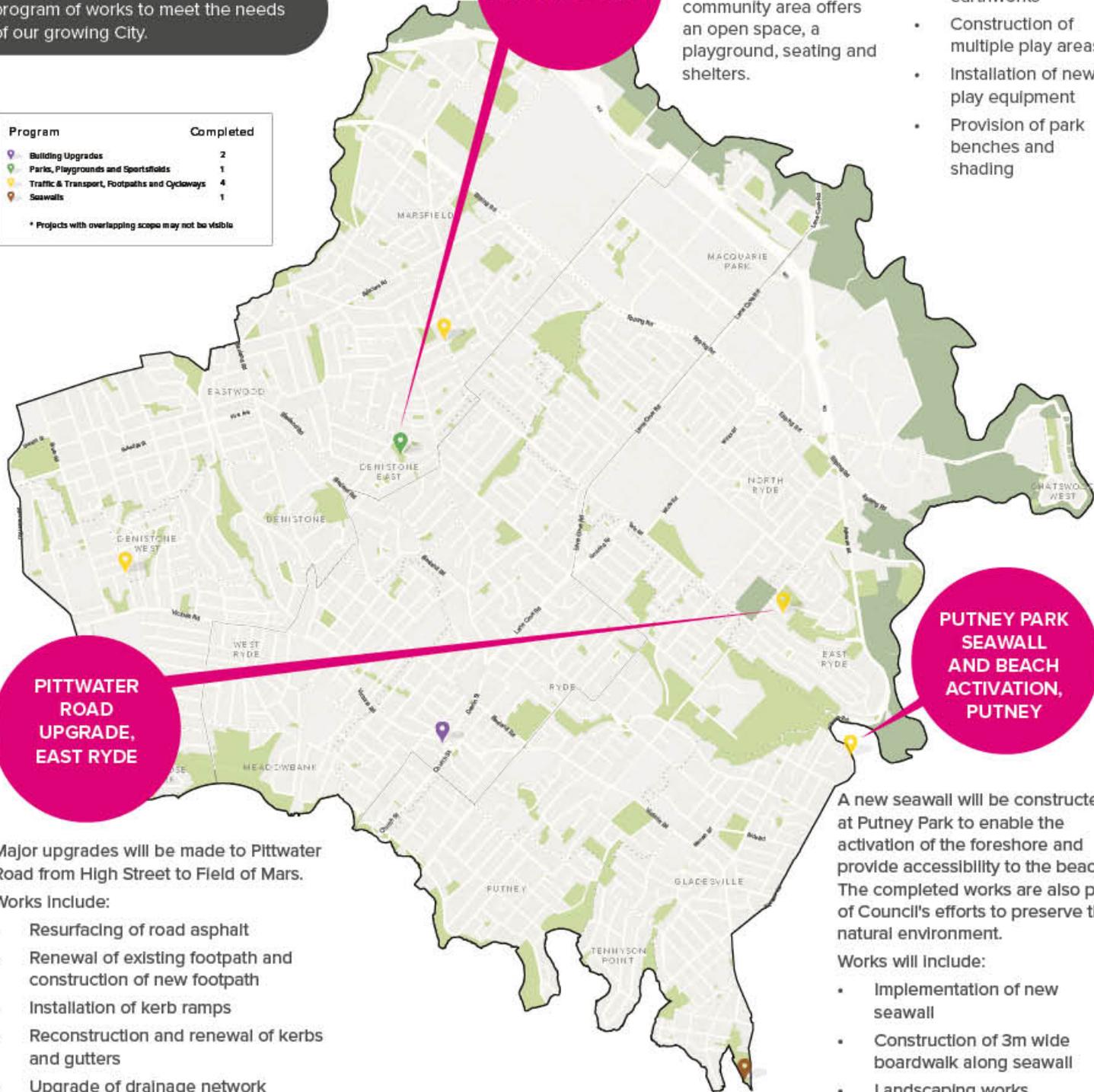
KINGS PARK UPGRADE, DENISTONE EAST

A new neighbourhood park was constructed to replace the former Denistone East Bowling Club site. This new community area offers an open space, a playground, seating and shelters.

- Works included:
- Demolition of current buildings
 - Landscaping and earthworks
 - Construction of multiple play areas
 - Installation of new play equipment
 - Provision of park benches and shading

Program	Completed
 Building Upgrades	2
 Parks, Playgrounds and Sportsfields	1
 Traffic & Transport, Footpaths and Cycleways	4
 Seawalls	1

* Projects with overlapping scope may not be visible



PITTWATER ROAD UPGRADE, EAST RYDE

- Major upgrades will be made to Pittwater Road from High Street to Field of Mars.
- Works include:
- Resurfacing of road asphalt
 - Renewal of existing footpath and construction of new footpath
 - Installation of kerb ramps
 - Reconstruction and renewal of kerbs and gutters
 - Upgrade of drainage network

PUTNEY PARK SEAWALL AND BEACH ACTIVATION, PUTNEY

- A new seawall will be constructed at Putney Park to enable the activation of the foreshore and provide accessibility to the beach. The completed works are also part of Council's efforts to preserve the natural environment.
- Works will include:
- Implementation of new seawall
 - Construction of 3m wide boardwalk along seawall
 - Landscaping works
 - Installation of stair access to the beach



COMMUNITY MESSAGE



Since the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic started, the City of Ryde has worked hard to provide assistance and support to those in the community who need it most.

In just over six months we have:

- Introduced a new Financial Hardship Policy in which approved JobSeeker and JobKeeper applicants may defer rates payments until November and are also eligible for a \$400 Council rates rebate
- Endorsed a 2020/21 Budget and Capital Works Program which forecasts total capital expenditure of \$80.64 million on projects that will assist with the City of Ryde's economic recovery
- Introduced a Small Business Support Package to provide financial assistance support for café and restaurant owners operating from Council premises as well as other commercial tenants of Council
- Waived more than 40 different fees and charges for local businesses for six months
- Introduced a new procurement policy that helps support local business and help generate employment
- Waived ground hire and sports field lighting costs upon application for the remainder of the 2020 winter sports season
- Established the Eastwood Small Business Hardship Fund, which provided support grants for more than 230 eligible businesses.

In addition, we are investing in key projects, such as the Ryde Central project and a new multi-storey shopper car park in Rowe Street, Eastwood.

These projects will create jobs, help revitalise our town centres and help put our economy back on the road to recovery.

We are also investing in creating new and improved open spaces, which are more important than ever in this period of social distancing.

This includes the new Kings Park in Denistone East, which Council officially opened to the public in September.

We also have grand ambitions for Blenheim Park in North Ryde, with Council recently endorsing a masterplan which will expand this popular park and introduce a range of diverse and inclusive facilities.

Last but by no means least, we have also managed to stage the vast majority of our extremely popular events despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

This of course includes our world-famous Granny Smith Festival which is being staged as a series of events – mostly online – throughout October that celebrate the life and legacy of Granny Smith in fun and engaging ways, but crucially ensuring everyone's health and safety.

As we continue to navigate our way through the COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges it presents, I can assure you Council will continue to do what we can to support everyone in the community who needs assistance.

Sincerely,

Clr Jerome Laxale - Mayor
Phone 9952 8222 or
email mayor@ryde.nsw.gov.au

YOUR COUNCILLORS

West Ward



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Clr Trenton Brown
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Clr Peter Kim -
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Clr Simon Zhou
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East Ward



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Central Ward



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